NOTES FROM THE FIELD.

The congregation composing the Brethren church at North Manchester, Ind., will hold their communion service on Friday, Nov. 12th, commencing at 6 p. m. A cordial invitation is extended to all who can to meet with us.

WM. W. SUMMERS.

The Brethren of Johnstown will hold their communion service, November 14th, 1886. All of like faith are invited to seats at the tables of the Lord.

A. J. STERLING, Pastor.

The Fair Haven church will hold communion service on Saturday November the 13th, 1886; and we not only invite, but request all our Brethren and sisters from surrounding churches, who can do so, to be with us on that occasion. Services to open at 5 p. m. By the church.

P. J. BROWN.

The Communion services of the Brethren near Terra Alta, W. Va., of Oct. 23 and 24th, are among the events of the past.

The meeting was an enjoyable one. The brethren and sisters in general appreciated the opportunities of the occasion; and the spectators seemed to enjoy the meeting also. Our home ministers conducted the services. Congregations were large and very attentive.

MRS. BELLE WILT.

Terra Alta, W. Va.

I am in a new part of the world, and here alone. No brethren and sisters; we moved from the Brethren Church at Auburn, Ill. To read the EVANGELIST does me as much good as to hear preaching. I would like to have some one of our good ministers to come here and preach; they are needed here.

ISAAC NEHER.

Holmesville, Gage Co. Neb.

We have our new church almost completed and intend to dedicate it Nov. 14th. We have the promise of Bro. J. H. Swihart to preach the dedicatory sermon and will also hold a protracted meeting following. All are invited to be with us who can. Bro. Ditch is here visiting among the Brethren and will preach for us next Lord's Day.

B. F. WAGNER.

Sweet Home, Ind., Oct. 23.

The Love feast at Glade Run meeting house is among the things of the past. We truly had a refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Elder E. H. Smith, of the Cowanshannock congregation assisted in the meeting. Good order and a good interest prevailed. Three Brethren were called to the office of Deacon, and installed on the 23d. The Brethren's names are as follows: William Walker, Hamilton D. Bowser and Alexander Cousins. The church seemed much revived. May God bless and eventually save us all.

On the 3d of November, our Church property, in the Court of Equity, is to be argued before the "Master" who was appointed by the Court to take the testimony in the case. On the 4th, I go to the Indian Creek congregation to assist in holding a series of meetings, and from thence to Warriors Mark, Pa. May the God of all grace bless his own cause everywhere to the salvation of souls.

J. B. WAMPLER.

Vinco, Pa., Oct. 24th.

DEAR EDITOR:—Our first communion in the new church at McKees, Blair Co., Pa., passed off very pleasantly. About forty communicants, and a large concourse of people were present. We began meeting a few days prior to our communion, and continued a short time afterwards. The immediate results of our labors were eight additions, seven by baptism and one by relation. Congregations very large and interest excellent. The little handful of Christians with which we organized but a year ago, has been steadily growing; has built and paid for a comfortable house of worship; has the respect and sympathy of the community, and a grand outlook for the future. If we do not mistake the signs of the times, we will be heard from in the future. This new church is located about 12 miles south of Altoona.

On Monday last we had the pleasure of meeting Bro. Isaac Holsinger of Oakville, Ind., who was visiting his many friends in this Co. He gave us a detailed account of the meeting and organization held there by Bro. Swihart.

On the 6th of Nov., the church at New Enterprise will hold their communion. At this meeting we expect brother Holsinger, (i. e. H. R.) Our Union church at Fredericksburg is now in the hands of the Knights of the brush, and soon we will step out of the school house into a beautiful sanctuary. So may it be.

W. L. SPANOGLE.

Martinsburg, Pa., Oct. 27th.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—I was sorry I could not fill my appointments at North Liberty and Ankenytown over Sunday; but then Bro. Hilderbrand is a good man and beyond doubt did good work during my absence. He does no other. He is a "refuge and strength" in times of much work.

Bro. Sam Helser is dead. His foot-steps are no longer heard in that Perry county home. His feeble voice shall no longer draw the family to inquire what he may desire. For about two years and a half he has been suffering of paralysis. But now his sufferings are ended and I believe God has condescended and wiped away his tears. He has removed his sickness and suffering. He was quite a charge to his family; but evan with all the care and labor resting upon them they were loth to part with him. He was a father to them still and a husband to that mother. Things will seem quite different now in that home. But if you keep Christ there he will cheer your sorrowful hearts and make you happy. I pray to God with all the emphasis of my heart that you who mourn over that father and husband may trust the same Saviour he trusted. May you love the same God that he loved. By so doing you shall meet him and associate with him on yonder shore where heart-rending partings shall be no more. May God look upon that bereaved family and gather them all under the shadow of his wing. This is my prayer. It always shall be my prayer. I will pray for you and all the bereaved every where while this feeble, stammering tongue lasts. May the God of our fathers take care of us all.

Bro. Helser is not only missed in the family, but also in the church. The neighborhood will miss him. His age was 68 years, 8 months and 14 days.

A. A. COBER.

Miami Valley Items.

In my last batch of "Items," I forgot to say that the Lexington congregation, came down to our house in a body. Of course they did not come empty handed. I was not at home, but when I returned I found substantial evidence of their having been there. Thank you Brethren. But you ought not to come when I am not there. I would like to have the pleasure of receiving and entertaining you. So you had better try it over again.

On last Wednesday morning, while quietly sitting in my study, Bro. Jesse Gilbert drove up. It did not take him a minute to tell his business. He desired to be baptized. We started immediately and with Brethren Aaron Root and Coler, we had a quiet solemn baptismal scene. Bro. Gilbert is one of our quietly influential well-to-do citizens, and the church gladly welcomes him among her number.

With the hope that it may yet reach the eye of some one, who may desire to meet with us. I will announce our all day meeting at Lexington Thursday, Nov. 4 (tomorrow.) Meeting to commence at 10 A. M. and again at 2 P. M., and love feast in the evening.

UNBAPTIZED BELIEVER'S COMMUNION.

That was rather an unfortunate expression that found its way into a late EVANGELIST. I am just wondering whether such expressions are consistent with our claims to be advocates of *progressive Christianity*.

The emphatic manner in which the exclusiveness of the old church was denounced in the *Gospel Preacher* and *Progressive Christian* is still fresh in my memory. I remember how much we disliked the idea of un-christianizing the whole world who differed from us in faith and practice. Now the question with me is were we in earnest then, or did we merely do that for policy?

We ought for a moment to remember what those "unbaptized believers" have done for the advance of Christianity. The translation of the scriptures is their work. The Bible Societies of England and America, where millions of Bibles, published in every language, are sent all over the world annually, is another of their efforts for the good of fallen man. Then see how many "unbaptized believers" as missionaries, go forth from home and comfort, to hardship and even death, for no other purpose than to Christianize the heathen and elevate savagedom into civilization. Look at the result of their efforts in Japan, Madagasgar, New Zealand, Feejee, China, India and a hundred other places. Outside of the half-supported mission post in Denmark, we do not know of any effort been put forth by Trine-immersionists. The noblest benefactors of the human race in modern times are and were "unbaptized believers," according to the definition given last week. Shall we in the face of all this stand forth and unchristianize such? We surely dare not.

It may be a fine theological point for us to decide *how far can men of different opinion unite in religious fellowship*. But from an honest Scriptural standpoint it is not hard for us to come to a conclusion. With but one or two exceptions all denominations of Christians believe in *a* baptism. We differ from most of them in our belief. In that we are conscientious and right. And we do not intend to compromise our faith and practice in baptism. We can adhere to our principles without becoming exclusive. When will we learn this fact? Because we grant them the privilege of communing with us, and will not tell them to go away, throwing the responsibility upon their own shoulders, we are not necessarily saying their baptism is right. We believe our mode is apostolic that is the reason we cling to it. We expect to cling to it for that reason. We love our church because it gives us this opportunity of obeying and serving Christ as we believe he ordained it.

Yes we will let the Lord straighten out his own fence. We might still, with all our care, make a few crooks. We would much rather the Lord would do it, and *we* will try, with the help of his spirit, to keep on the right side. There is a passage that reads: "Behold, I have set before thee an open door, *and no man can shut it*."

We cannot all see alike. These honest discussions are an evidence of the fact. We cannot close our eyes to the fact that these unhappy schisms are a hindrance to Christianity. Exclusiveness only makes the matter worse. We can be firm in our belief and yet charitable to others. An able writer has recently said that if Christians were but true to their holy and beneficent religion, infidelity would be simply impossible. "Hadn't you better," said a sceptic recently, "agree among yourselves before you come and talk to me?" I believe it is Mr. Anthony Trollope says, that while traveling in this country, observing in a small town quite a number of churches, remarked to a citizen that it spoke well for the religion of the place. "Nay," said the person addressed, "it is not religion—it is rivalry." Now let us not make it any worse.

It will not be denied either that our Lord in his prayer, his thrice-repeated prayer, at the supreme moment of his ministry, was for the unity of his church (John 17: 11, 21, 23;) and it was prayer for *visible* unity, a unity which would be conspicuous to the world (21, 23, and for a unity so close and blessed that he could only liken it to the hypostatic union of the Godhead. Now it is quite clear that were *outward* unity—such unity, for example, as exists at the present time in the Roman Church—is not a sufficient fulfillment of those frequent petitions of our Great High Priest.

Again, we cannot endorse one another's creeds, we are only too glad to sing one another's hymns. Thus our hymn books, to which all the leading sects have furnished contributions, we use around our communion tables, and sing hymns, whose authors are "unbaptized believers," and whom we would, according to the exclusive theory, spurn as heretics.

Charity, brethren is the only solution to the vexed question. Let us not put ourselves on record as close communionists. We need not fear the Mormons and Roman Catholics, they are close communionists themselves. I will still cling to my motto, which will stand every test. If we err let us err on the side of charity.

EDWARD MASON.

Westmorland County Items.

On Saturday, 23rd, in company with Elder James Bennet, we started for Bear Rock school house in Fayette county. We had meeting Saturday evening and Sunday morning; good attendance and good attention. This, in all probability, will hereafter be made one of our regular appointments.

Our protracted meeting will commence at Jones' Mills on Sunday next.

THE EVANGELIST No. 43 is now before me, ladened with many good things. Also reminding us of some important matters. First comes brother Holsinger's last appeal in regard to Ashland College debt. I do think brother Holsinger has surely done his duty in trying to clear the College. And now I do hope that the churches everywhere will heed his last appeal and do what they can toward making up the few hundred dollars yet needed. Brethren everywhere, remember Thanksgiving day, and let us not only remember the day, but let us remember that we have a duty to perform on that day in regard to paying off Ashland College debt.

Another very important matter that we are reminded of in EVANGELIST No. 43, is, that a few more numbers will close this volume. Therefore we should all do what we can toward enlarging the list of names of subscribers for the coming year. Hope it may be doubled. I know this, that if every family in the brotherhood was as eager to have the EVANGELIST visit them weekly as ours is, it would be more than doubled.

There are several reasons why we should subscribe for the EVANGELIST. First, because it is the only way by which we have the privilege of hearing of the working of the churches at large; the only way we have of learning of the ingathering of souls in the Brethren church throughout the United States. In my opinion the brethren and sisters who do not read the EVANGELIST are not posted in some things at least that would be to their advantage to know. Then again, we should support our own paper. Charity commences at home, and our editor is spending time and money in trying to make the parde worthy of our support. I am glad that he has not only tried but has succeeded, not only in bringing out a paper worthy of our support in the past, but of our patronage in the future.

And last, but not least, we should patronize the EVANGELIST because if we are interested in the churches and our families, as we should be, the EVANGELIST is not only the cheapest but the best paper published. Don't see how any brother can get along without it. Let us all renew our subscription for the coming year. Also send in many new names.

STEPHEN HILDERBRAND.

Jones Mills, Pa.

A Cook Wanted.

Ashland College Boarding Hall is in need of a competent cook. Any sister wanting such a position is invited to address M. S., care of Pub. House, Ashland, Ohio, at once.